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Mr. Bryant's Last Poem.

Kr. Bryant's literary life extended over a period of seventy-tour years. In 1804, at the age of ten, be printed his first poem in a Massach country paper; and on February 23 of the present year he wrote his last poem as a contribution to the Washington's Birthday number of the Sunday School Times, of Philadelphia. The memory of Washington has never received so worthy a tribute, from an American poet as the six noble stanzas given below :

THE TWENTY-SECOND OF FEBRUARY

BY WILLIAM OULLES BRYANT. Pale is the February sky, And brief the midday's sunny hours, The wind-swept forest seems to sigh

For the sweet time of leaves and flowers. Yet has no month a prouder day, Not even when the summer broods O'er meadows in their fresh array, Or autumn tints the glowing woods.

For this chill season now again Brings, in its annual round, the morn When, greatest of the sons of men, Our glorious Washington, was born.

Lo, where, beneath an loy shield, Calmly the mighty Hudson flows! By snow-clad fell and frozen field Broadening the lordly river goes. The wild storm that sweeps through space,

And rends the oak with sudgen force, Can raise no ripple on his face, Or slacken his majestic course

Thus, 'mid the wreck of thrones, shall live Unmarred, undimmed, our hero's fame, And years succeeding years shall give Increase of honors to his name.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 3, 1878.

Had the Pacific R. R. legislation of the past winter been supplemented by nothing to give it practical effect, the several weeks devoted to about the most important work of the session would have gone for naught as has been the case heretofore. But a step in advance, as compared with previous efforts to make these colossal corporations amenable to law, was taken in the provision made for the "Bureau of Railroad Accounts" which was organized and put on its feet Monday. As one of the bureaus of the Interior Department the Secretary is charged with its administration in strict accordance with the law creating it. Its chief function is a stringent supervision over land-grant railroads which run wholly or in part north, south or west of the Missouri River. It is a new experiment, its originators having little in the way of precedent to guide them in modeling it; and it may be found very imperfect. But amendments, alterations and additions can be made as experience suggests their necessity. It has to deal with vast interests impartially administered with due regard to the rights of the roads and the public for whose profit and commerce they were built it may prove a long stride in the right direction for the solution of a problem that has for years people swore at first that the man proved a stumbling block to our legis-

The report current here for the past few days that a more vigorous and less lenient policy is to be adopted towards the Rio Grande thieves, seems authentic. It is known that Gen. Ord has been here some days in consultation with the President, the Secretaries of War and State, and that the matter occupied the best part of the time of a and a large amount of property have been sacrificed during the last one. It at last got the validity of his usurpation formally endorsed, would not hesitate to provoke a war as the means of enhancing his home popularity and consolidating his power. It is the almost uniform feeling that it was only the comparative weakness of the Mexican forces encountered by McKenzie that deterred the Mexican General from making an attack, and that the next crossing on a similar errand may precipitate hostilities that have been threatening for several months. There been instructed to execute the orders

here has been or will be once more notified that we shall forbear with their marauders po longer.

The Potter Committee took a recess yesterday until the 11th inst. The testimony has not of late been important, but on yesterday Mr. E. L. Webber, of Louisiona, swore to matters of great interest. He is a brother of D. A. Webber, since deceased, to whom and Anderson was addressed the famous Sherman letter, promising protection for making the fraudulent protests against the election in the precinct in which they lived. Mrs. Jenks, it will be remembered, swore that she dictated that letter, and that Sherman had nothing to do with it. Mr, Webber testifies that he had often seen the letter, and that it was in Sherman's handwriting. He also testifies to the fairness of the election in 1876, and to the determination of the Republican leaders, in advance of the election, to count the State for Hayes no matter what the result was. He says however, that the result was so overwhelmingly Democratic that the leaders had given up the idea of a contest until prominent Republicans from Washington, New York and Ohio telegraphed to New Orleans that the State must be secured in order to elect Hayes. Then says Webber, the busi ness of getting the protests commenced. These protests to have any legal effect, must have accompanied the official returns. The law on this point, as has been well known, was disregarded. Mr. Webber says, also, that after all arrangements had been made to throw out enough votes to secure the State it was found that one of the Hayes electors had run behind the ticket, and that then, without any protest or reason whatever, several counties having Democratic majorities were thrown

The witness impressed his hearers favorably, and is a man of intelligence. His testimony is considered as of very great importance, and, unless successfully contradicted, shows as clear a violation of law as was testified to by Little Giant Dennis of Archer precinct, Alachua county, Florida. If, indeed, these two men are not contradicted, there is but one course for Mr. Hayes. He cannot, as an honest man, continue to hold what he must know is the stolen property of another. He must break down Dennis and Webber.

REX.

Canes. Everybody remembers the ballad of Goldsmith, of the mad dog who bit the man, and died in consequence. The man escaping utterly unhurt. The

would die; "But soon a wonder comes to light, That showed the rogues they lied, The man recovered from the bite,

The dog it was that died." A similar case is reported by the Newark Advertiser, of a veteran drunkard, occuring recently in South Camden He was bitten by a rattlesnake and not in the least injured; but the snake comfortable-writhed, wriggled, squirmlate Cabinet meeting. It is alleged ed and shivered-then coiled himself whiskey, swallowed manfully, is a the system, the liquor fails to produce drunkenness.

WHILE France is prosperous, Germany is greatly depressed, and the German people are ripe for revolution. The burdens of military despotism, the prostration of industrial and financial interests, and the outrages perpetrated in the name of law against all seems no room to doubt that Ord has Socialists as the friends of Republi-The representative of President Diaz continent of Europe, except France. Thursdan morning.

MATE SOTHERN.

A Matter-of-Fact Account of the Crime for Which she is Suffering.

Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer, June 18. -We give in this paper the evidence elicted in the much-talked-of trial of Kate Sothern. It differs as much as light and darkness from the sensational accounts we have been reading in certain correspondence. There is nothing in the scenes, the surroundings, nor in the incidents to glean a tithe of romance. The whole was a fight between two women, while the gallant Bob Sothern and the rest looked on. They were all very ignorant people, Kate and her sister both centered on 'Sis' Cowart. There is no evidence that the men present tried to part the combatants, nor does there appear to have been such a scene as the sentimental writers picture of Bob. with pistol in hand, forcing Kate's way through the crowd. All that was the imagination of a fancy sketcher. Kate Sothern is not pretty even. She is of medium height, about twenty years of age, and has dark brown hair, and the twang of a North Georgia cracker. She is very ignorant, can hardly read or write, and Bob is worse educated than she. Kate is passably good looking and wears imitation jet. She says the witnesses swore lies against ber; that she acted in self-defense; that she cannot dance, and that night at her father's was the "fust time she ever seed a reel run." She is now on the plantation of Colonel Smith, in Washington County, and will be employed in the household, cooking and washing for the convicts who work on the plantation. The six-months "baby" is sick—teething and that now requires most of her time. She says no money has been sent her from the North. Her health

Her sixteen-year-old sister, sentenced to two years as an accessory to Kate's crime, has been in Col. Smith's house as a servant. She is handsome, and has been taught to read and write by her kind mistress. On her father's farm she worked in the field and drove an ox to the plow. Her sentence has proved a blessing.

Bob Sothern is nothing but a strong good-looking animal-a common ignorant boor. He is now a guard to convicts on the same plantation. The woman Kate killed was on a par with

On reading this evidence one feels utterly disgusted at the amount of sentimental twaddle that has been expended on the case. Not a scintilla can be obtained to exicite single expression of admiration. Why, the parties surrendered themselves to get the reward, and the understanding was that Kate's mother was to get \$50 of the money. Where even a fertile fancy could extract anything of a romance from an atrocious crime crime we cannot im-

We do not believe there is a single woman, no matter how warm and symbegan to show himself monstrous un pathetic her heart may be, who, after reading this sworn testimony, will sign a petition for Kate Sothern's pardon. that since our recognition of the Diaz up with an air of resignation, and Governor Colquitt did right. He Government raids have increased in died from the effects of the liquor weighed the evidence carefully, and frequency and extent. Several lives which it had unadvisedly imbibed. Isoplayed both justice and humanity This is a good case for temperance in his dicision. A crime has been lecturers. The fact, by the way, is committed, a woman killed another in has just this appearance, Diaz having perfectly notorious, that a pint of ber father's house, after she had been received kindly by her parents-and certain cure for the bite of a rattle- then to demand of the authorities that snake. While the vemon remains in | she shall go free is preposterous. If such an act were pardoned, the doing so would be a mockery of the law. Crime already has too much licenso because the statutes are not enforced.

> Eighteen persons were seriously poisoned at Pitston, Pa., by milk taken from a cow supposed to have been bitten by a rattlesnake.

Howard, railroad agent at Paige brocanism are designated, will bring an- ther to the man who is in jail at Basissued months ago in the fulness of other storm like that of 1848, and trop for killing Alex. Farmer last May their letter and spirit on his return. possibly it may sweep over the whole was shot and killed by masked men